



METHOD OF MODIFYING COMPONENTS PRESENT IN CASHEW NUT
SHELL LIQUID

Abstract of the Invention

Disclosed is a process for modifying cashew nut shell liquid (CNSL) which involves the
5 steps of subjecting the CNSL to ozonolysis to form ozonolysis reaction products, followed by
reduction of the ozonolysis reaction products to give a mixture of phenolic components and
aldehydes. In a preferred embodiment, the process involves reacting CNSL with ozone to form
a mixture containing ozonolysis reaction products, and then treating the mixture under reducing
conditions to form a further mixture containing phenolic components with an eight carbon chain
10 having a terminal -CHO group and alkyl components of varying lengths with either one or two
terminal -CHO groups. The resulting CNSL aldehydes may be used to form adhesives for use in
the manufacture of composites such as wood particle board.